Knight's ナイツ

5
ムラオミノル

C114-8
電撃コミックス

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祈るな、さらば救われん――。

今よりも遥か昔、魔女熱狂時代と呼ばれた頃の物語。
エクスクル下王国では、悪魔を崇め奉る存在とされた"魔女"は、
聖職者によって神の名の下に断罪され、火刑に処されていた。
"魔女狩り"を行う聖職者を狩る秘密結社"聖なる者への鎚"の一員である
黒き従騎士ミストは、不可思議で強大な力を持つ"聖人"に戦いを挑む…。

これは"魔女"として囚われた悲運の少女と
"神殺し"の禁忌を冒す従騎士の恋愛叙事詩である。

Knights
ナイツ

聖なる者への勲章
～おっさん100%～

5

ムラオミノル
Minoru Murao

Knights
ナイツ

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Knights
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CONTENTS

第21話　前兆 ―― p.005

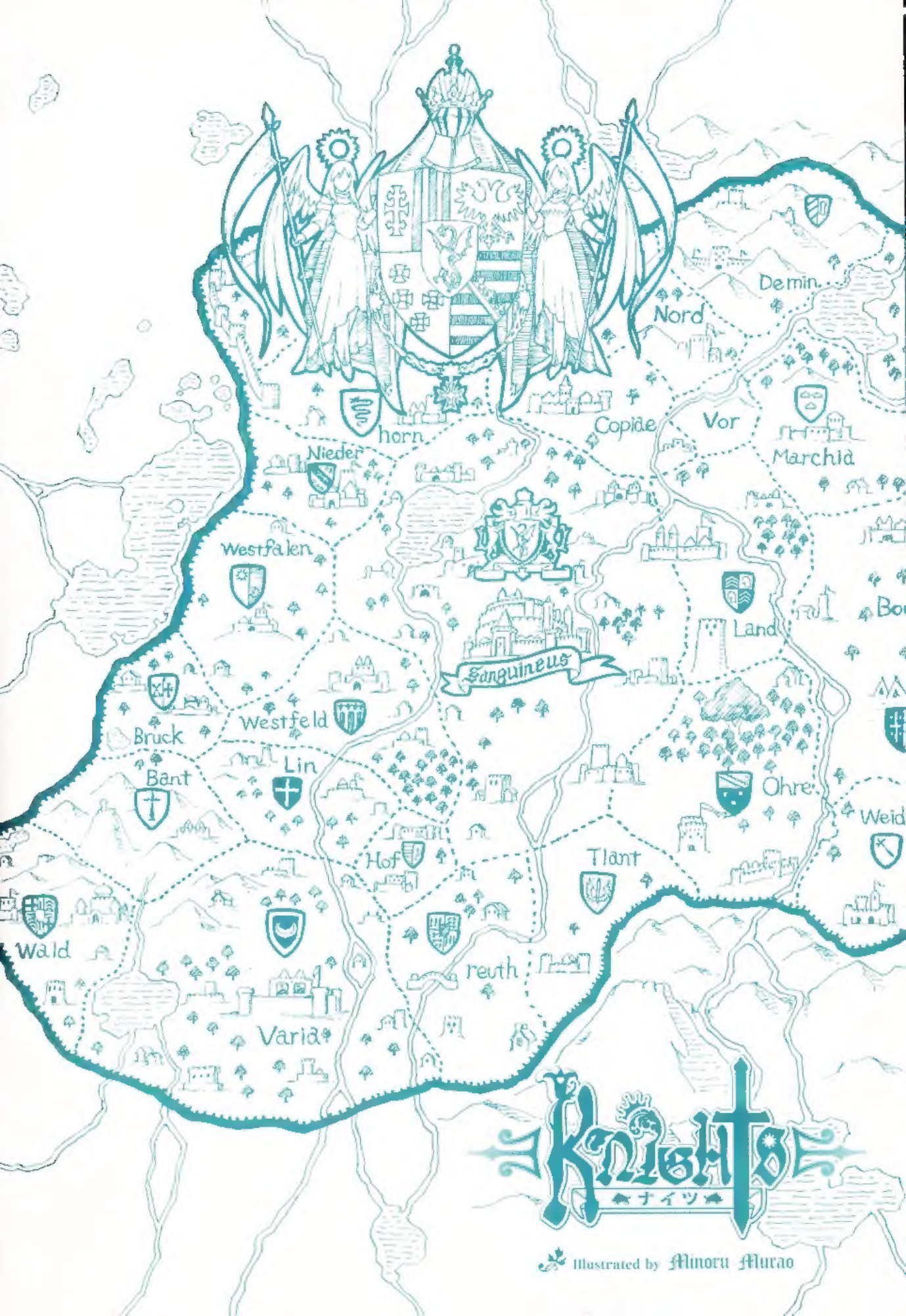
第22話　少女の戦い ―― p.049

第23話　男の戦い ―― p.095

第24話　騎士と魔女のミンネゼンク ―― p.141

エピローグ ―― p.197

あとがき ―― p.206


Demin
Nord
horn
Copide
Vor
Marchia
Nieder
Westfalen
Land
Sanguineus
Westfeld
Bruck
Bant
Lin
Ohre
Weid
Hof
Tlant
Wald
reuth
Varia
Knights
ナイツ
Illustrated by Minoru Murao

Presented by Minoru Murao

Knight

ナイツ

5

ムラオミノル

DESIGN : KEIKO SEKI • SELFISH GENE

SFX: sigh

Yeah, that was it ....

... wasn't that it?

The honorable duty of safeguarding the forest and providing support for 'Hammer of Holy Men,'

Hey ... What was our mission again...?

*SFX: Various Laughter

This place sure has changed .....

Chapter 21

Omen

ワイ ワイ

……

ワイ ワイ

This place has gotten pretty lively, hasn't it? There aren't enough beds left...

That is all due to Sir Mist's hard work.

I am very proud to be his girlfriend.

I wonder where he is right now?

Yes, I...

……

SFX:Blushing

SFX:Flailing

GIRL-FRIEND!?

!?

Please don't get so worked up, you're the one who said it....

!?

Maybe I should try my luck?

I am jealous, though; So, you get to be the girlfriend of a future knight?

Eh heh heh♥

It's no good~

Sir Mist loves...

I love .... But...

I... I never asked him how he felt...

What's wrong?

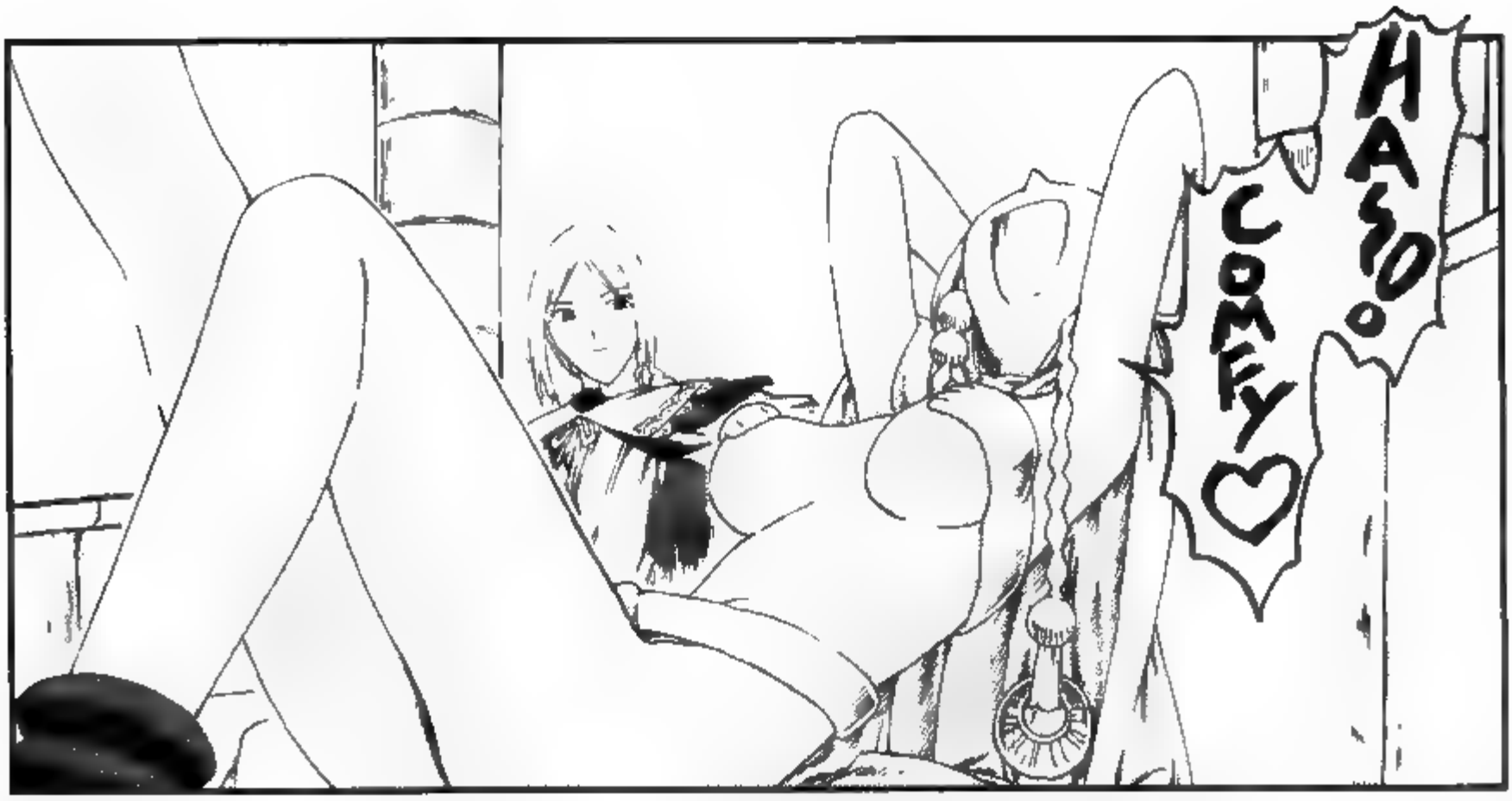
.....

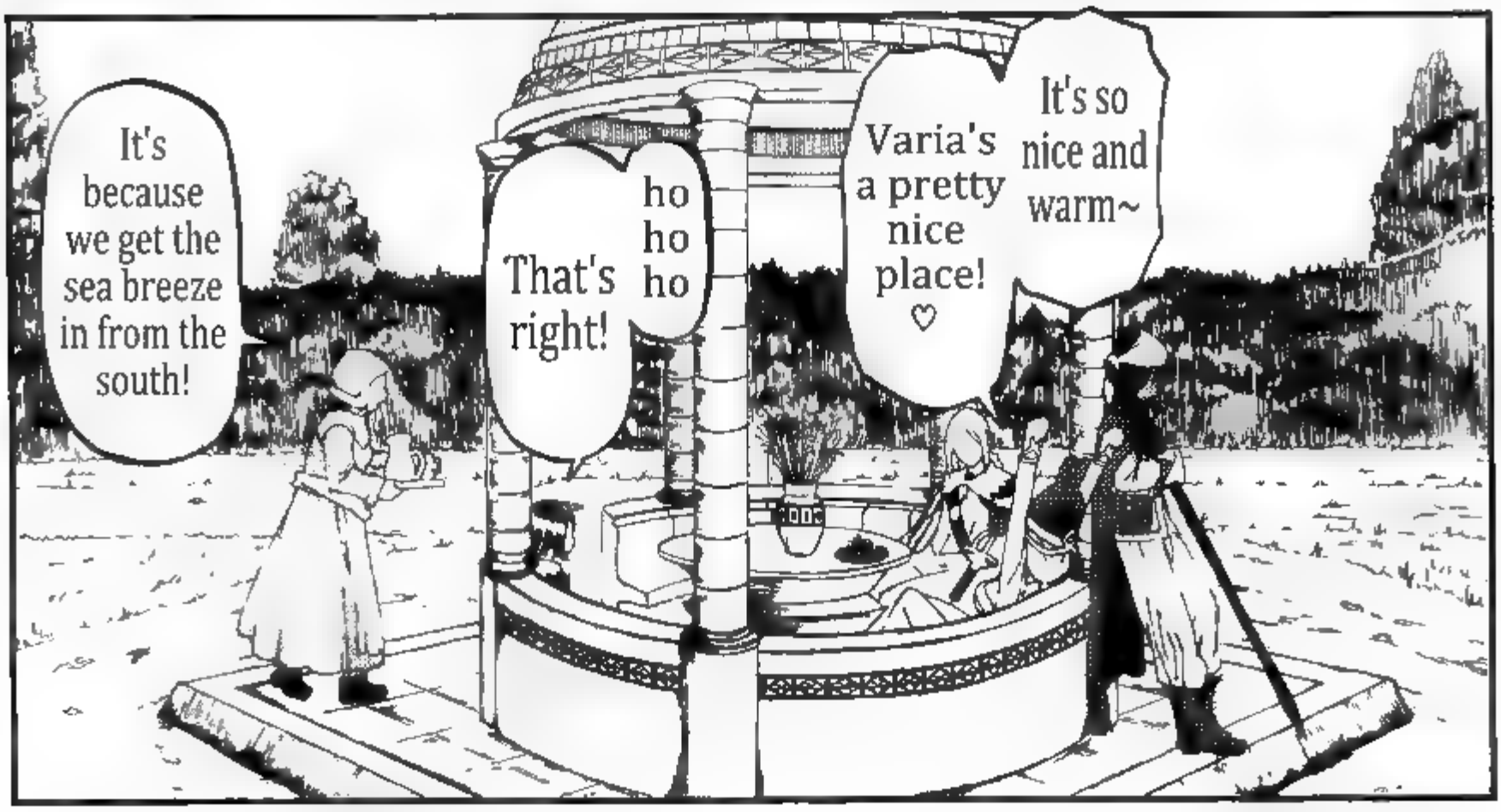
.....

?

Sir Mist ...

What does he think about me?


HAAO
COMFY


It's because we get the sea breeze in from the south!
That's right!
ho ho ho
Varia's a pretty nice place! ♡
It's so nice and warm~

They kind of got unexpectedly annhilated, hun~?
イラッ
Well,

There's no need to worry. The Dominic Order doesn't seem to be especially active at the moment.
Is it really OK for us to take it easy like this?
but ...

?

That's pretty rude, Euphemia

Hey! Mr. Slave-guy over there! Wanna come drink with us?

Really?

First of all, that guy isn't a slave here.

So he's not a slave!

He came here from the neighboring country as a runaway slave.

Employee!?

I'm pretty sure he's in the employ of one of the merchants who does business in and out of the castle.

He says it's his duty to protect all the people of the province.

... but Father helps to find them jobs and acts to protect them.

That the Hausmeinin don't have any black slaves?

And didn't you say...

Signs that they are being treated like people.

They're well-clad and there are no fresh wounds from the lash...

Still, good job figuring that out.

Yeah, she did...

Did she?

Y-!!

You're different !!

He remembered

....!

I refuse !!

B-because you are my slave !!

Seriously?!

A pretty nice place

Varia really is...

Halt !!

ガッ!

Ah~ It'd be nice if we could stay like this ~♡

You may! Be grateful for our kindness!

N- No, that's not what I--!

What disrespect, attempting to enter the castle grounds with a horse!!

What's that?

What's going on!? So noisy ....

Duchess ...

I'm in a hurry --!!

I just... just found this person collapsed, and...

Wha!?

!!

No ...

We've only met once. I don't even know her name .....

Do you know her?

Lady !!

Why are you-!?

This isn't the time to be getting the wrong ideas...

Truly, you are an enemy to woman-kind.

That casual, huh?

We need a doctor, hurry !!

Ah...!

.....

She's awake !!

.....

Beca..se I'll get you back on your feet, ok?

But you're fine now,

I'm so glad~ I was worried; it was close there for a while...

uh ...

Don't you know her?

I thought she was someone connected with 'Hammer of Holy Men.'

Yes ...

I met her at Sanguineus Castle.

Sir Scott, you seemed like you knew this woman before...

But ...

Why would she be in Varia ....?

At any rate, anyone who could harm a woman...

Is someone I can never forgive !!

...Now that you mention it, I have heard something...

About a witch deep within the castle, who could use a special technique.

... since then .

it's already been five days. ?

Eh!?

Uhm ...

khh.. uhh... What.. day is it....?

I'm pretty sure it's the first Friday of Revival.

Witch of Secrets ....

HAH HAH HAH

Your medicine works very well

No, you've got to stay in bed!!

Ah!!

kh...

She knows me?

Eh !?

huh..?

Please, a crystal ..or a scrying pool..

Show us... what?

I have to show you...

.....

There won't be a later ...

You can't overexert yourself!!

We'll listen to whatever you want, later!!

Uh!!

Listen!

Hear the name of the "Demon" who hid himself behind the mask of Justice!!

What

Royal
Capital
Sanguineus

Near the
Outskirts

With such courage, your skill will never wane, no matter your age!! Let us become an example for the younger knights!

Mayhap we'll have a chance to do practice maneuvers? I'm anxious to try my skill.

What could be happening ?

For them to gather us together in our entirety ...

ｲﾟｶ ｲﾟｶ

Ah!!

.....

Welcome back! How was your mission?

Sir Wilhelm !!

I wish I could have gone with you!

Did you vanquish lots of enemies ?

Eiyah!
And then, I'll win lots of deeds of arms!
I can't wait to grow up and be a Knight!
A~h

Eh ...?

Be careful what you say.
.....

It may be our duty but it isn't anything to feel good about.
Cleaning up the remnants of a defeated foe...

.....

We had to take care of some monks. Unarmed guys.

Over .....

Is it really, though ....?

hn ?

It's finally over.

But with this, both the priests and the Saints are dead. I think it's safe to say that the Dominic Order has been rendered powerless.

That was too easy.

...Sir Wilhelm

Yes ...

+H'...

.....

This doesn't seem to be practice maneuvers at all.

Maybe.

The Holy Order of Kn.ghts?

So it's a trap?

やれやれ

S...

Sir Wilhelm ---!!

At least these guys don't look like much of a challenge.

No interest in talking, huh?

uh...
ウオオオオオ
UWAA!
Hn...
チキ

Don't underestimate 'Hammer of Holy Men' !!
Human Bullet Truman
Heavy Artillery Earhart
Wave Knight Wilhelm
Knight of Loyalty and Valor Talhoffer
Tower of Heaven Hunschfelt
Gentleman Brawler Debringer
Red Dagger Braunschweig
Honorable Crest Gonzal
Young Lion Schupier
Venerable Old Swordsman, Lichtenauer
Iron Arm Belhringen

ﾊｰｰ…

Just what you would expect from the 'Hammer.'

They've pushed them back.

What !?

Sir Wilhelm !!

Look!!

That means ...!

The crest of the Phoenix Order...

We're fighting and killing our own allies!!

ドドド

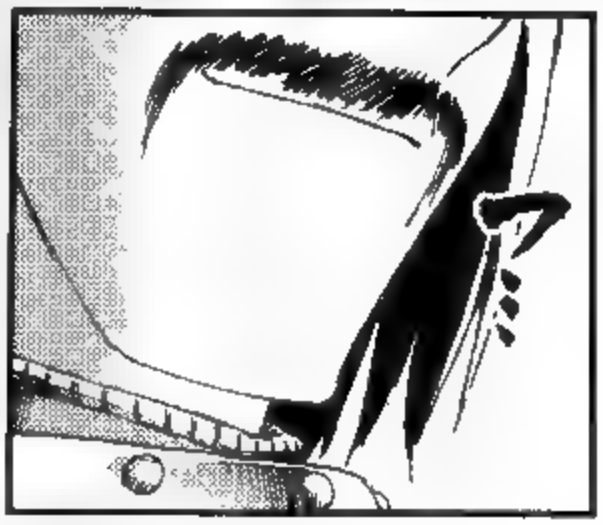
SFX. Impact

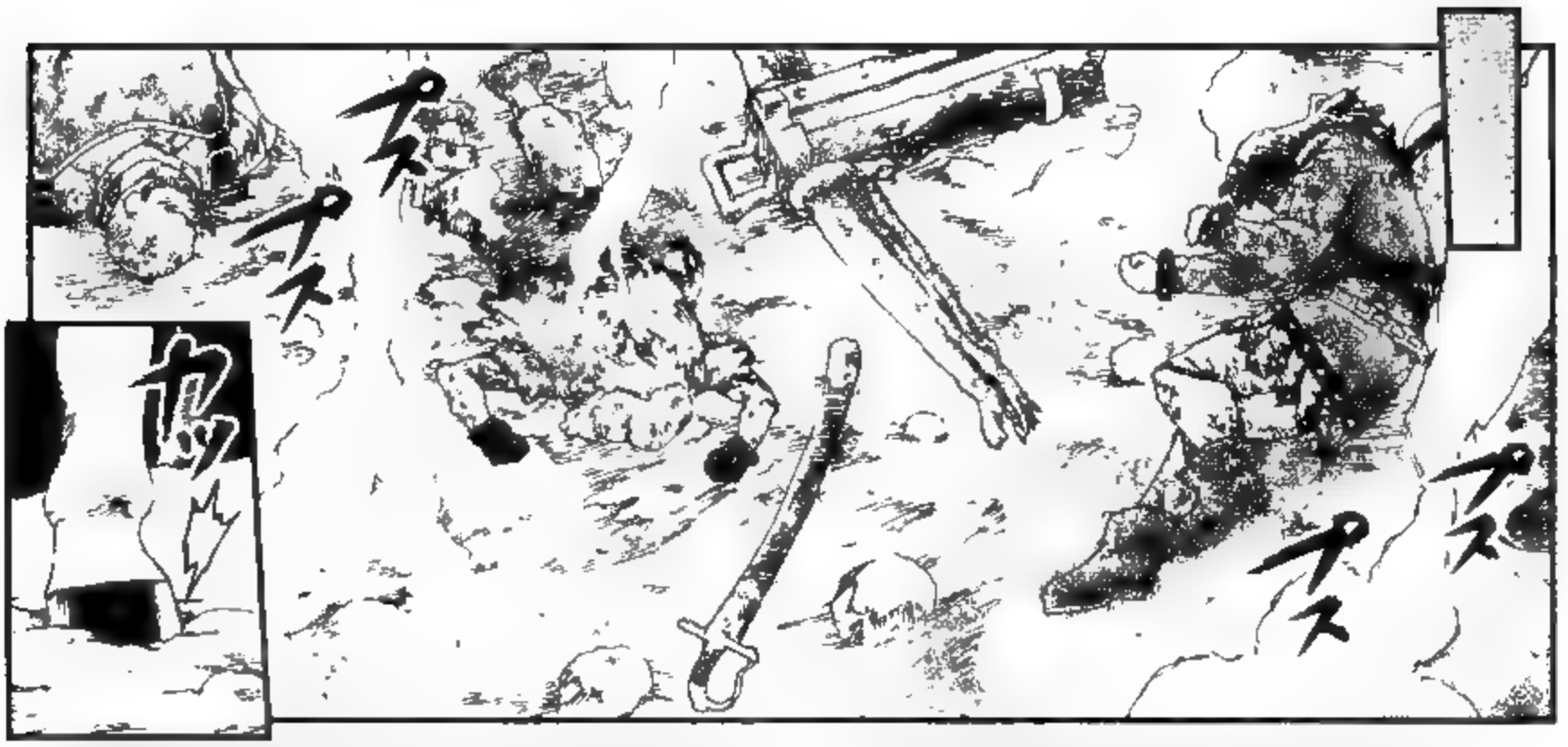
SFX. Swish

AAAA!

It's glorious ...
ゴオオオオ

Lord God,
Ohh!!




プス
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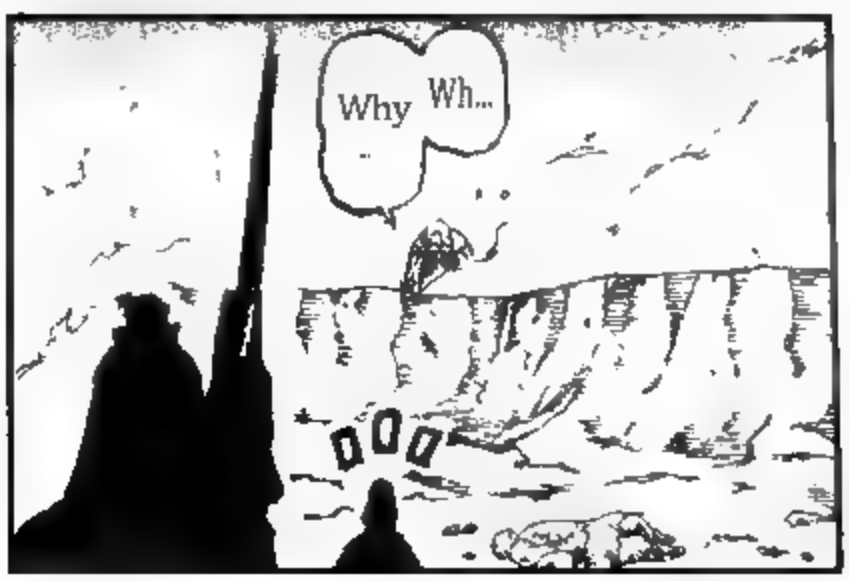
カッ


Why
Wh...
DOO

ザッ!ザッザ...

was just ...
just following his dreams ...
This child ...

He survived ...?
unbelievable ...

Why have you done this monstrous thing?!!

Why!!?

!!

SFX soft impact

Wh...
Why have you done this....

Highness
...

キリシ

hh...

ピィヤ

!!

What you've just seen is something that is happening on the outskirts of the Royal Capital

Now, do you understand?

……

Using it, I can also sense people's motives, but...

チョン

What I've just showed you is a technique that can link others spirits into an image.

So, it's like Fühlen ...

The Crown Prince is...an enemy?

I don't believe it.

The one who brought together the 'Hammer of Holy Men,' in order to stop the witchhunts...is...

The spell of Far-Sight and this wound are proof enough.

It is not a matter of whether you choose to believe,

.....

The fact that I have somehow even managed to survive is due to sensing the Prince's evil intentions.

Shut up!!

I speak the truth.

.....

There's no way Sir Wilhelm is dead!!

!?

Mist
. .

The scrying pool!
ポン

becoming jumbled ?

The spirit link is

キュイーン

This is!!

It couldn't be...!!

It..

Sfx screaming

……

Capture all of the witches!!

Go !!

ウワァ

ヒィイ

Why is the Royal Family doing this?

That crest is definitely

Miss Nina, it's dangerous!

Wh

Why ?

Why are the knights working with a priest!?

I...

But then ... you... What will you do...?

Miss Salome, please run away.

Eh !?

I..

I am Sir Mist's girlfriend.

!!

Hmph!

Making this difficult for us!!

Eee!!

Seize the--
.....

.....!

!!

Miss Nina

uh
...

...asked me to look after everyone.

He
...

If you have any business, then you may take it up with me,

and with me alone !!

I will not tolerate violence against anyone here !!

Very well, then.

Wait

The priests don't have any mercy for witches! They won't

Alone...? That's... that's crazy!

Wha...

Why .....?

Nina's been captured !!

.....

No!

Notes on Chapter 21

p13 - Going from the kanji, what I've translated as 'Revival' season, is perhaps like Easter in the Knights verse.

** Using 'Miss' between Nina and Salome seems a little stiff, as they get along like close friends, but I felt I needed to distinguish between their more proper way of speaking (with san) versus, for example, Euphemia, who never uses honorifics with anyone. Nina, in particular has a very proper mode of speech.

**Related to the above point, it did feel a bit wrong to use a casual and modern word like 'girlfriend' for the 'koibito' relationship Nina is describing, but she herself would never use something like 'lover,' and they aren't engaged, so though it's a little odd sounding I hope you'll understand.

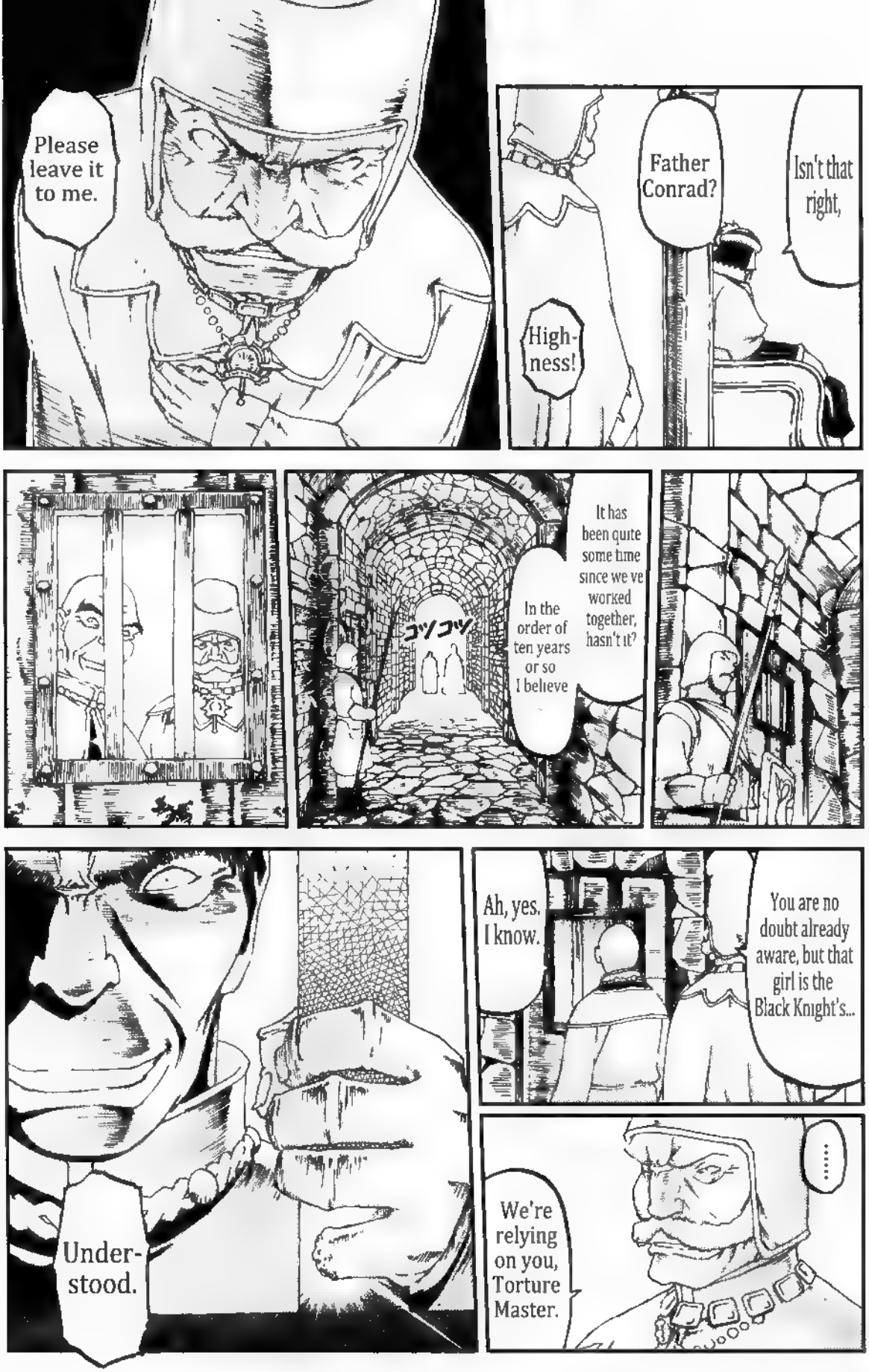
And as a final, general note, related to the story. I'd like to provide some context for volume 5. As you may or may not be aware, the magazine, Dengeki Gao, which Knights was serialized in, went out of business, and Murao was forced to wrap up his story far more quickly than he had planned. Just something to keep in mind as you read onwards.

Saboten Scanlations is a one-woman operation
Send emails to glaivegirl@hotmail.com

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

I do read all the emails Sorry, I'm just impossible about responding, but thanks so much to everyone who's taken the time to email me comments!
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

I'll give my report.
The bodies of the members of 'Hammer have all been recovered,
and the next phase of the plan has been readied.
Only one of them remains
Highness,
If I may speak freely...
Highness
It's just about time, isn't it,
It seems he is under the eye of the Duke of Varia. Reckless attempts to reach him may not be feasible.
What, exactly do you think responsible for controlling this country?
.....
It's fear, of course.


Please leave it to me.
Father Conrad?
Isn't that right,
High-ness!
コツコツ
In the order of ten years or so I believe
It has been quite some time since we've worked together, hasn't it?
Under-stood.
Ah, yes. I know.
You are no doubt already aware, but that girl is the Black Knight's...
We're relying on you, Torture Master.
.....

Chapter 22

A Girl's Battle

Stop being ridiculous!! Even with the fastest horses it's a four or five day journey!!
Haven't we arrived at Sanguiness yet?
This is too slow!

SFX:glancing sideways

SFX anger

Who do you think you are? If you have so many comp.aints, perhaps you'd prefer to get off and walk

Never-mind that!!

Just make us go faster!!

.....

Because I wasn't there with her....

Damn it... this is all my fault.

Why

.....

Why.....

Why

Why did I leave her alone...?

Why didn't I tell her how I felt?!

ﾌﾗﾌﾗ…

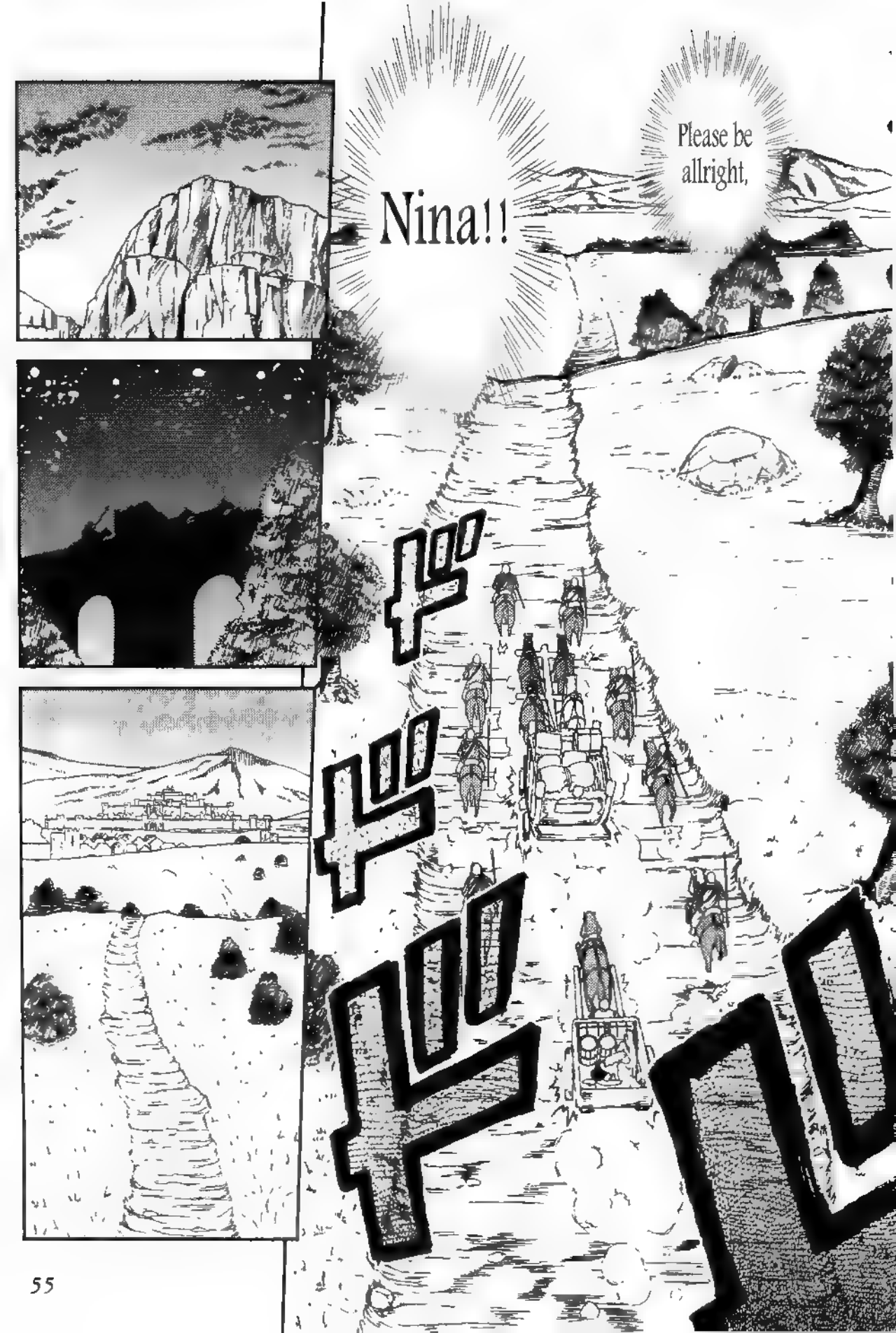
There has to be some kind of mistake ...

ha ha ..

Mist...

right, Euph-emia?

They ..st couldn t have caught Nina...


Nina!!
Please be allright,

Hey, did you hear?

They caught a witch right here in the capital!

It's so frightening~ I hear she's still a child...

Wel-come back~ !!

Ah!! Leo!

バサ

How did things look in town?
Ahh ...
There are soldiers deployed everywhere throughout town, and...
..they number not less than one thousand.
Taking into account the Phoenix Order of Knights, their followers, and adding the number of mercenaries..
In addition, rumors that a witch has been captured are circulating, far more than would be necessary.
'Hammer ...
As they did to the others of the 'Hammer.'
One that has been designed to draw you out so they can kill you.
This is a trap!
I'm sorry. I was unable to...
.....
'all that'?!
ガタッ
Nevermind all that!
Where are they keeping Nina!?

I see...
kh..
ギィ
Then... we have no clues ...
ﾌﾚｲ

ヨオオオオ

!!

We may be able to discover something about her location by looking at her current state.

オオ

Yes! The spell of Far-Sight!!

……

Hurry! Please!!

Please, you must wait.

Just a everyday, average girl.
She can't use a sword, and she isn't of high birth, like yourself.
She's a normal girl.
but ...
but?
Tell me! What kind of person is Nina?
Ah ...
That's right, you didn't know...
to Mist,
she is precious beyond price.
No matter what.
We have to get her back,

You can't possibly mean you intend to fight!?

One thousand soldiers!!

Weren't you listening before?!

That has nothing to do with it.

We're going to save Nina.

eh... get her back?

You can't ...

a worthless, humble girl like that?!

What is the point in saving

Wha!?

It's too dangerous !!

It's stupid to put yourselves in such danger for a girl like that!

Do you think you can just say whatever the he.l you want because you're a noble?!
What the hell did you just say?!
You damned brat!!
It... it hurts ....!
Let... ...go ...
.....
I, too.
Miss Euphemia.
eh...?
.....
am opposed.
I, too,

I'm saying, I am also opposed to this.
Le..
Leo ...?
!!
Quiet!
Are you also willing to abandon Nina!?
Don't give me that!
Just a little more
The image
キュオオ

Nina!
It dis-
appeared!
...her
concious-
nes...
...has
stopped.
"Her
concious-
has
stopped"
...?
You
don't
mean
...

Blame me or don't. It has no effect on the outcome.
I speak only the truth.
Are you saying that Nina is dead?!
That's not possible!
……!!
This is--!
It seems she merely passed out.
!!
ボウ
……!?
オオ
オオ

……

ポク ポク

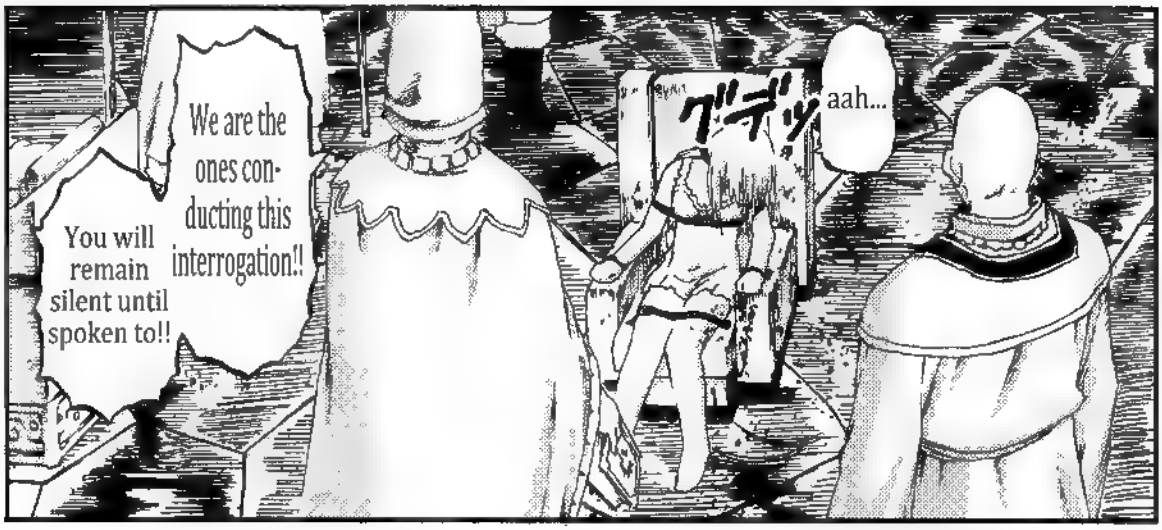
!!

uh
…

BF

AGAIN!

GUH
HA!
NEH
NEH!
AAH
GNH
Why?
Why... have you done such a...
Ghh ...
ゴー
!!


You will remain silent until spoken to!!
We are the ones conducting this interrogation!!
グヂッ
aah...

!!

Admit it!! Admit that he is a demonic creature!
I'll ask you again: you had an accomplice, didn't you? One with black skin?

Black skin...? Don't tell me-
sfx: sharp pain

They aren't after me ...
Don t tell me they're ....

If I have to ask again the thumb-screw won't be the half of it!
Answer me!!

They're after Sir Mist!!

They're in league with each other...

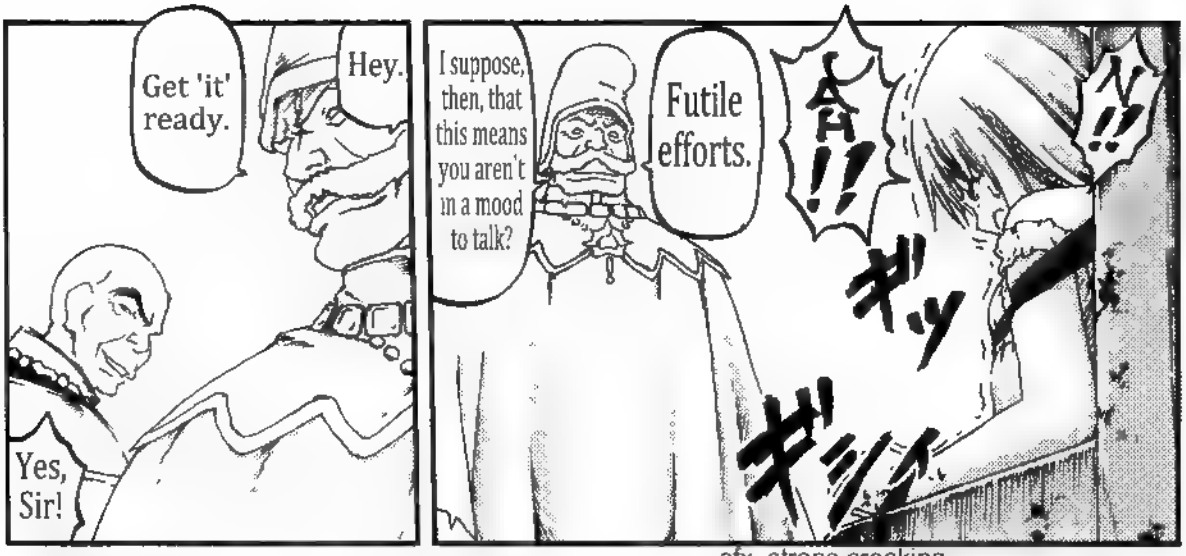
something they can use to hurt him...

They are trying to get me to tell them something they can use to bring down Sir Mist...

じゃあ...

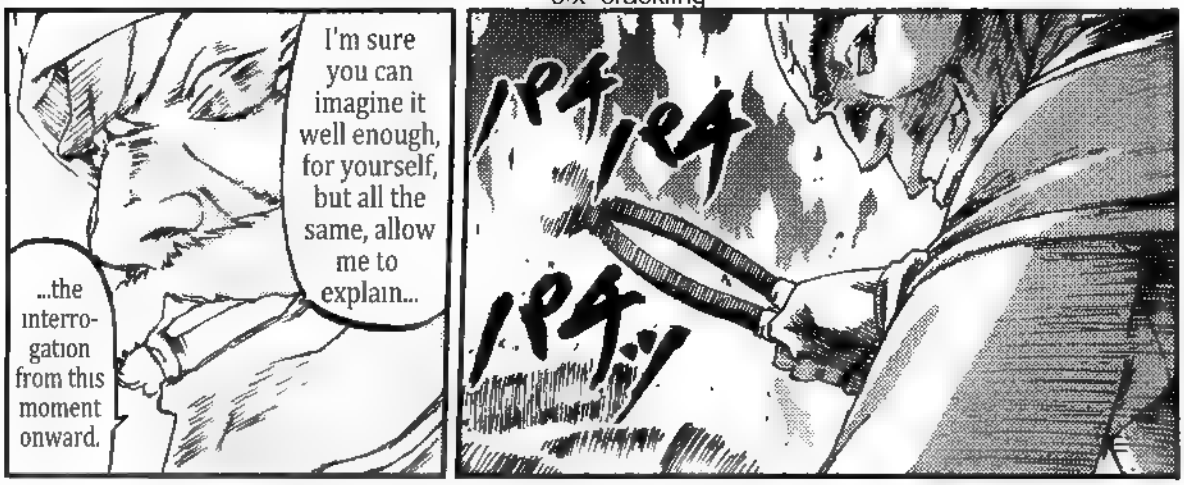
I've got to protect him!

ズズ!!



sfx. straps creaking

sfx crackling


I'm sure you can imagine it well enough, for yourself, but all the same, allow me to explain...
...the interro-gation from this moment onward.
IPA
IPA
IPA

sfx: chair clattering
!!
!!
ガク
ジーン
After the Red Boots, we'll start cutting off limbs.
'Red Boots.'
These are
... ...
confess.
...that's right....
For the sake of your body, it would be best to confess as soon as possible
While you're still alive, that is.
there's ....
only one...

One way to protect Sir Mist!!

I'll...

But, if I do that...

No ....

No ...

ウオオオ

HEE!!

ゴゴゴゴ

ZOOO!!

M.stle-tien?

Will you turn your eyes away from the truth,

.....

Mist ...

GH...

!!

I understand how hard it is...watching and being unable to do anything..

..but we have to see this--

Mist ...

!!

MAKE IT STOP!!

NO MORE!!

Mist ...

ニャオ!!
NIVA!

Now, the finishing touches.
AGAAA!!
ゴゴゴゴ
バチバチ
ゴゴゴゴ
!!

This is the last time I will ask you: confess!
Or else, we will bring down this iron hammer to strike!
If you are fortunate, perhaps never being able to walk again will be the worst consequence.
Now, we'll strike your feet, along with those red-hot boots.
Oh!!
I'm sorry, Sir Mist ...
uhh ...
Sir!!
Secretary! record this!
GAH!
HEA!
HA HA HA

I...

I will fight you!!

sfx
sharp pain
ズキズキ
were you even to carve my body to to pieces,
It matters not what sort of cowardly violence you subject me to,
I will not betray him because of something like this!!
ハァ
ハァ
I will not lose!!

hand Sir Mist over to the likes of you!!

Because, I will *never*

How long do you think you can keep acting tough?
Hm!!
.....
Nina ...
It's alright ...
Just tell them ....
I'll let you see for yourself ...
..the way in which agony can dominate a person's will!!
The one and only way to protect Sir Mist....
It is.....
AH
AH
NO
Please !!
Just tell them!!

It is
.....!!

ギュッ!

サオオ

She
...

Sh..

ピク

Wait
!!

!!

ゴボ

She ...!!

ハチ

She bit off her own tongue !!

NINA!!

NINA!!

NINA!!

AAAA!!!

eh

did she...

Sir Mist

ヴァン

"I love you."

.....

.....

I...

lo...

.....

Sir Mist will hear any lies that could bring you down.....

With this neither the kingdom, nor the priests

die,

fight-

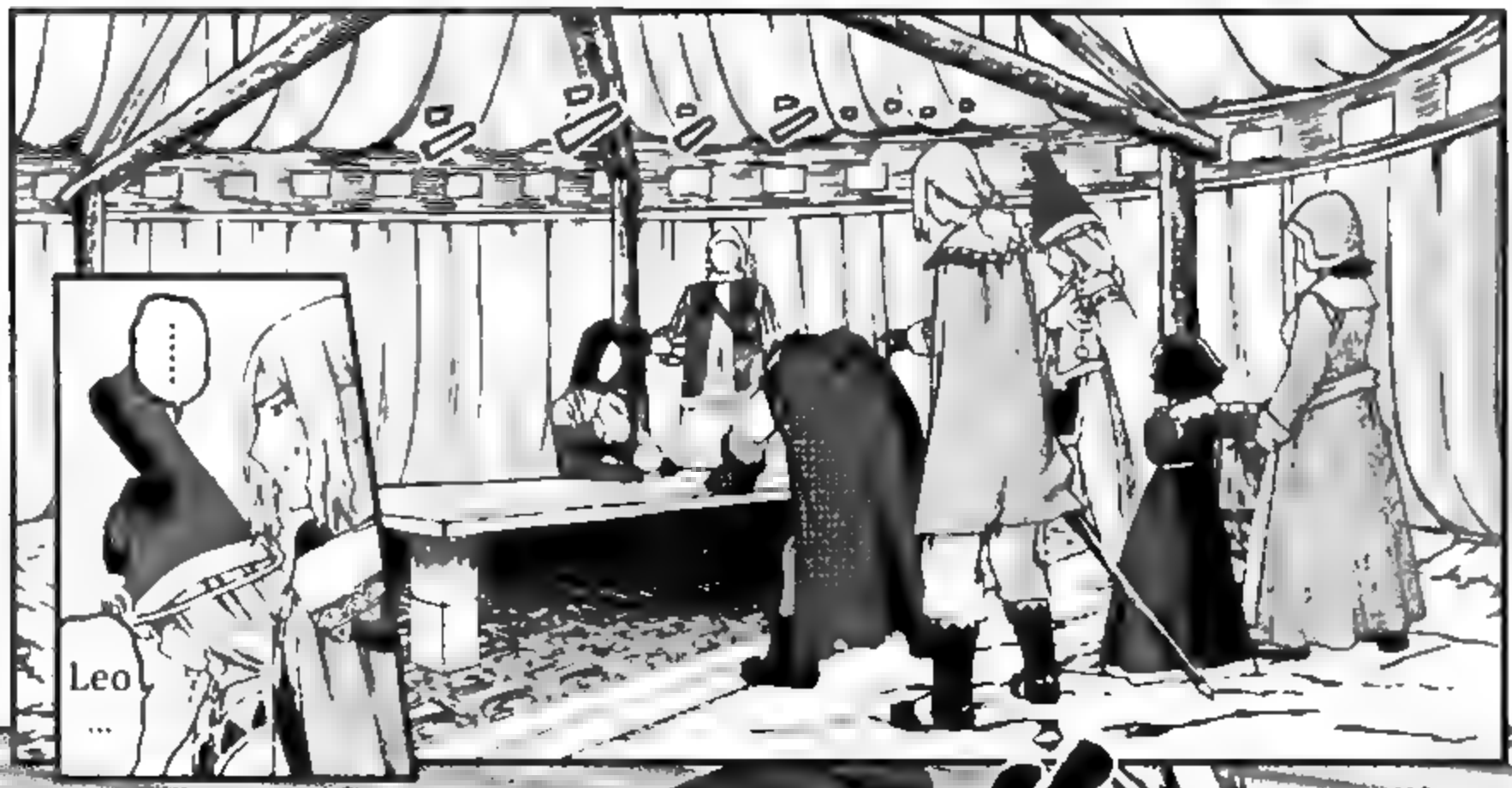
ing...

...

I will...

I'm sorry.

フウウウ


……
Leo
…

She's tried to die for Mist's sake !!
What do you mean 'worthless'?! What do you mean 'humble girl'?!
.....
Nina is a very strong girl!!
she's except-ional!
That isn't something that just anyone could do,
for my sake ....
.....
Do you still say you want to abandon her?!

Mist
...

ah
...

but, please be assured,

The witch attempted suicide,

because of the prompt treatment I employed, she remains alive.

For, witches must be put to death at the stake.

ビクン

ガバァ

What do you think Varia is goint to say...?

This means we have lost any legitimate reason to kill him.

Deepest apologies !!

Out-maneuvered by one little girl .....

……
Nina is still alive!!
Elza showed us an 'image' of the priest.
Mist.
Because, this was not your fault.
You do not have anything to feel bad about ...
Even if it were, there is no reason to do--
Those words are not what Mist needs.
What are you doing?!
Hey !!
……
It seems that they intend to hold an execution tomorrow, to avoid her dying in prison.

He doesn't need solace!
I have to tell her...
This time ...

Notes on Chapter 22

** According to my research, the name for the torture device used in this chapter is 'Spanish boots,' due to the implement's frequent use during the Spanish Inquisition. However, there probably isn't a 'Spain,' as it were, in the Knight verse, so I went with a more literal translation of the Japanese.

Once again, it's been quite a while between chapters. The promised double-release for December '10 has been delayed unil January '11 due to the creation of and move to Saboten Scans' new website, but rest assured, there will still be two chapters this month, so consider this to be part one of two, please.

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~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
I do read all the emails. Sorry, I'm just impossible about responding, but thanks so much to everyone who's taken the time to email me comments!
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

1000 soldiers, was it?
オオオ
Royal Capital Sanguiness
Outer Residential Block
External Wall
ヒュウウウ
!!
カッ
Wait for me, Nina ....

Chapter 23 A Man's Battle

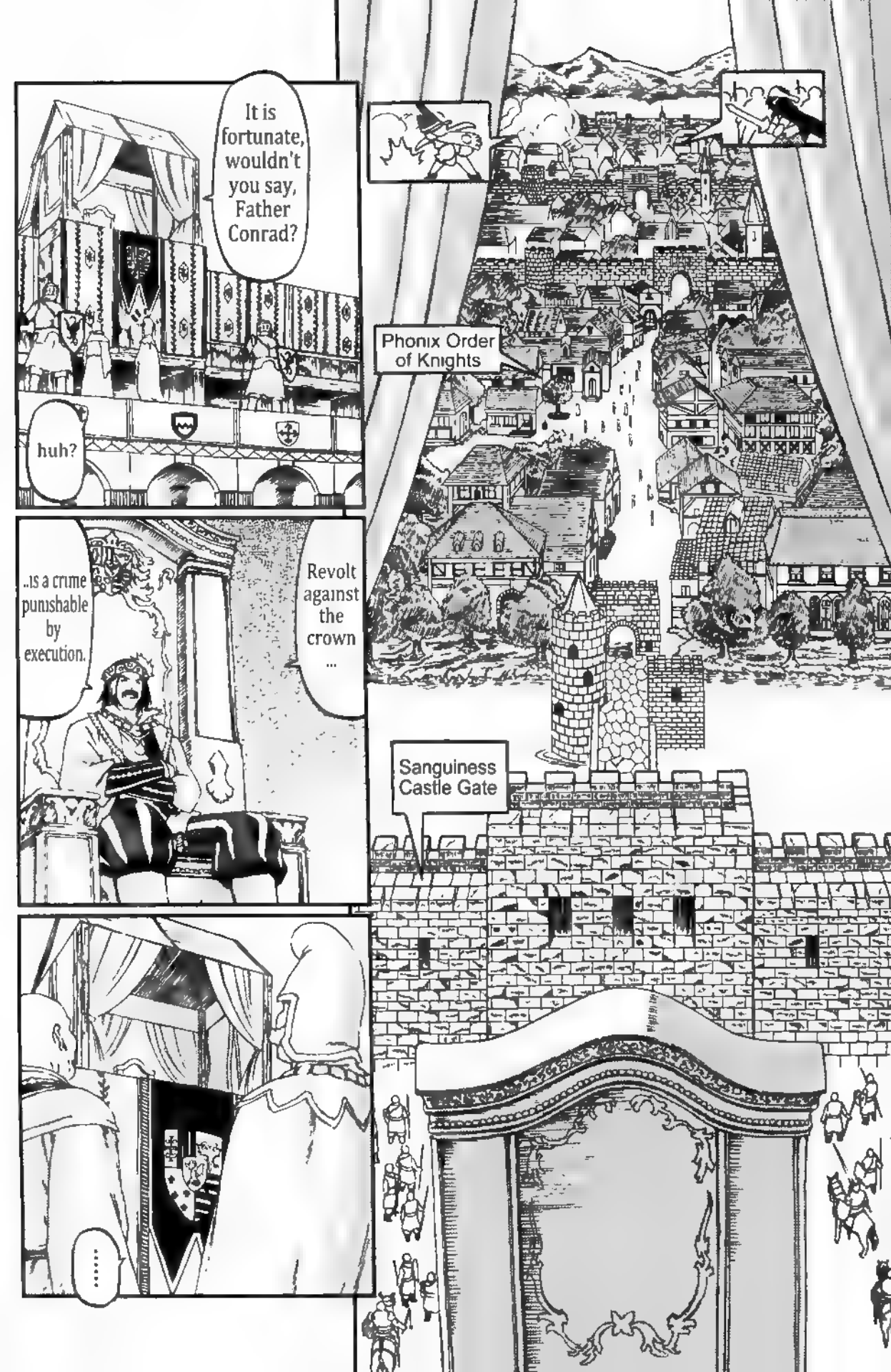
I'm coming !!

Hurry!!
The rebels are at the east gate
ダダダダ
Wha ..?
モモモ
モ
モ
SFX: Smoke
いわ?
ボフッ!
Nn!!
It Hurts!!
UGYAH!!

MY EYES!!!
UAGH!!
It's my special-recipe blinding formula. I added some hot pepper.
heh heh ...
Hurts, doesn't it?
No matter how much of a tough guy you are, not much you can do to toughen your eyes, eh?
UWAH
MY EYES!!

Mist's wounds haven't healed completely... There's no way he can deal with all thousand ...
Create chaos, distract them !!
ダダダダダ
You're dead!!
Who the hell are you, damn it!!
ダッ
If Leo was here ...
……
ガシッ
ドン
キッ
Forget about Leo! He can do whatever he wants!

We'll save Nina, just the two of us!!


It is fortunate, wouldn't you say, Father Conrad?
huh?
Phonix Order of Knights
..is a crime punishable by execution.
Revolt against the crown ...
Sanguiness Castle Gate
.....

Hurry up and get here, Mistletien
Heh heh .
Save me the trouble of retrieving your corpse.

Reporting.
The remnants of "Hammer" have broken into the outer city.
They are currently engaging the mercenaries.
..... what do you think you're doing wasting time like that?
ギィイ
There's no need to close the gate.
If you count the guards at the gate, the number of mercenaries deployed between the outer city and this inner gate is about 500.

AR!!
No matter how strong they are, absolutely no one is going to make it this fa...
What ...!?
He's too fast.... Impossible ....
What happened to the mercenaries !?

Telling us to leave the city is a suggestion I just can't heed.

Even we have a sense of honor, I won't renege on a contract.

Two hours prior, on the outskirts of the Capital

キィィ

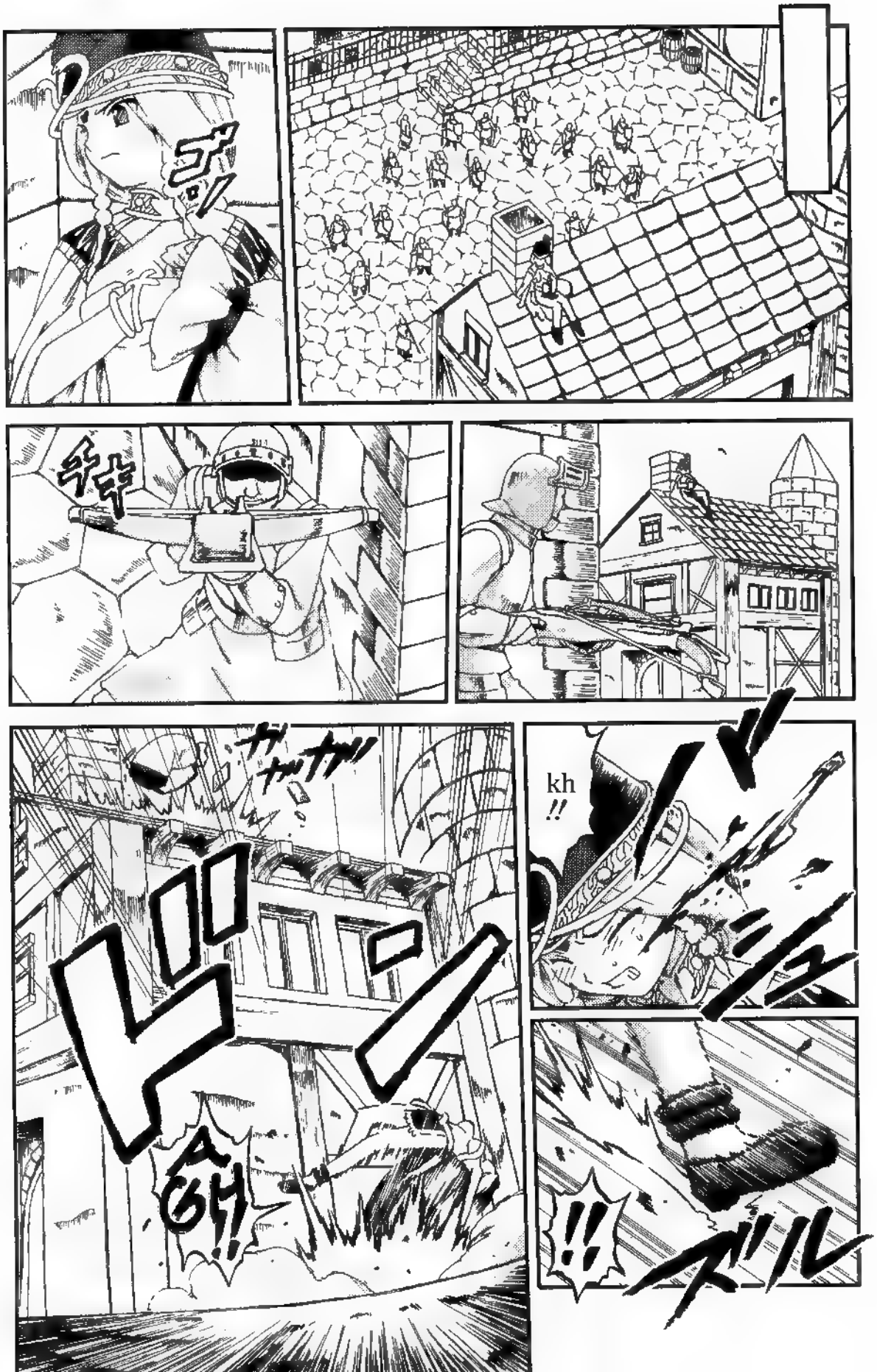
.....

Hm?

コオオオ

I am willing to pay each of you individually ten gold coins.
I am not suggesting that you do so for free.
gold ...
ドヨ
ひけ!!
Even if you had, for example, broken a contract ....
If you had this much, you would even be able to purchase indulgences.
All of your sins...would be forgiven.
.....

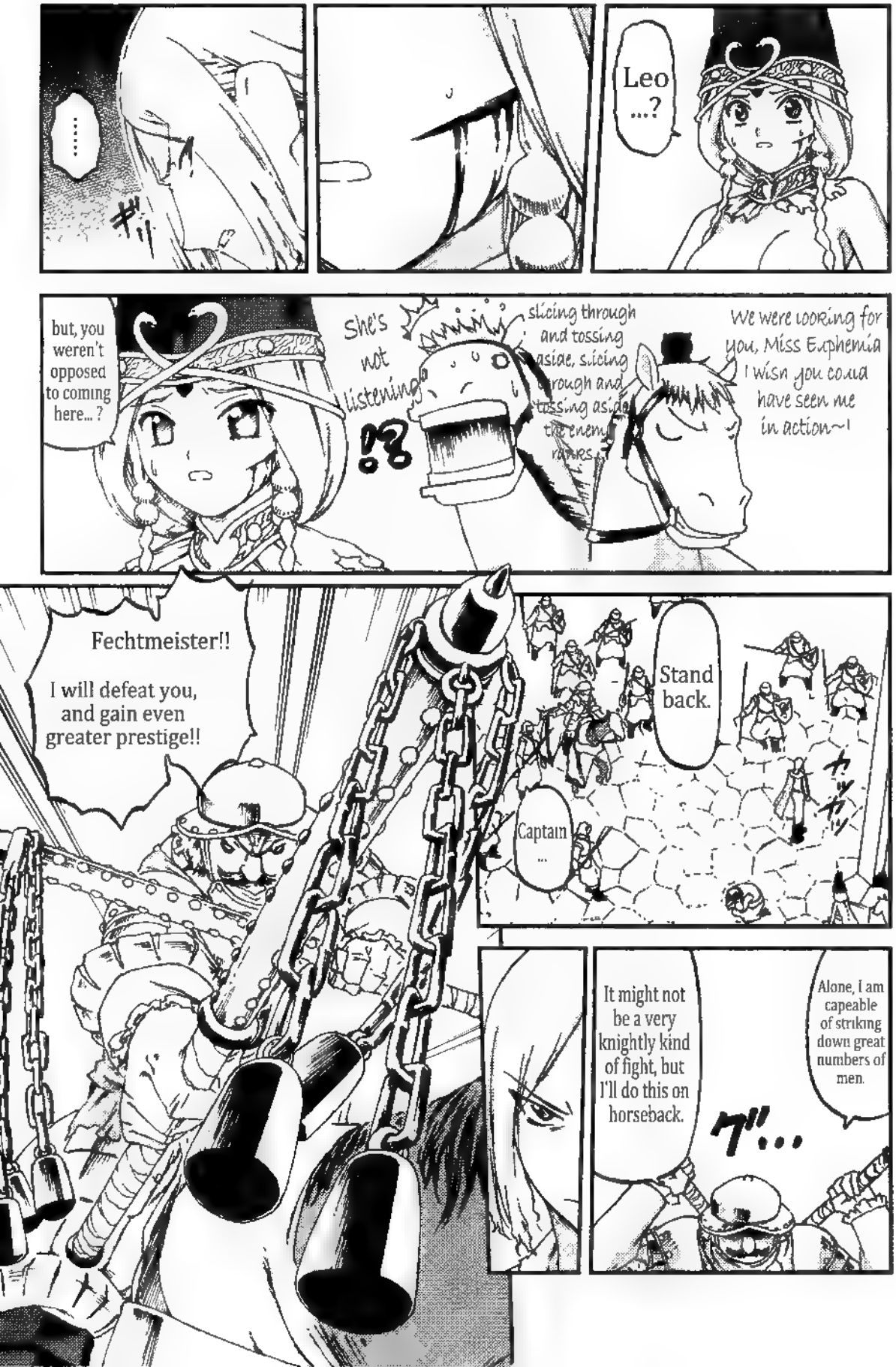
I guess even god's scams come in handy, sometimes.
indulgences ...
This is all we can do for them.
Do your best, sla....
Mistle-tien.
..... no,


ザッ
ドドドド
kh
!!
ガガガガ
ドドドドーン
AGH!!
!!
ズル

one of the rebels, huh?
!!
tch....
Damn it .....!!
Wha!?
You should expect things like this, in battle.
!!
.....
hurry up and finish.
The captain gets it.

With this body, I'll help save Ni
Well, thanks for making it convenient! I'll drag every one of you in, and I'll make sure you can't even stand up by the time I'm done!!
Huh ?
Hasn't this happened to me before, too many times to count . . . ?

Who ..... ?
Eh
Wh....
ドンッ
!!
ムホ♡
Who the hell are you!?


.....
Leo ...?
but, you weren't opposed to coming here...?
She's not listening
!?
slicing through and tossing aside, slicing through and tossing aside the enemy rivers...!
We were looking for you, Miss Euphemia I wish you could have seen me in action~!
Fechtmeister!!
I will defeat you, and gain even greater prestige!!
Stand back.
Captain ...
It might not be a very knightly kind of fight, but I'll do this on horseback.
Alone, I am capeable of striking down great numbers of men.
ｸﾞ...

At the moment, I....
Enough with the speeches, just attack.
.....
Come!!
I, the greatest of the Phoenix Order of Knights, Bart, of Dual Scorpions
nn..
...do not have anywhere near the patience required to listen to your tedious prattle.
WAAH!!
ギルルル
ギルルル
RYARYARU
!!

That guy really is fast, but .....
Successive attacks, wielding a flail in each hand!! He's so fast you can't even see!!
Wow!!
Every-thing.....
He's dodging....
Why is Leo so angry...?

Could it be
……
ギュン
ウォォ!!
The essence of my style is
Balestra,' which makes possible instantaneous acceleration, normally unobtainable with a sword
And!!

Virgo!!

Is that anger for me ....?
.....
I was opposed to you fighting.
I was not opposed to the attempt to rescue Lady Nina.
Lady Euphemia.
WWha? !?
sfx jolt in surprise
.....
so please, I'd like you to stop taking part in these reckless battles, to stop selling your body
I'll be there for you, whenever you need me

I love you,
and I don't want to see you hurt ....
.....
No one has ever told me that, even during sex..
I love you ...?

NNEA!!

No.

ドサッ

クラッ

ぎゃああ

ドッサーン!!

ワ…

You'll pay for what you did to the Captain …

……

ズッ

Halp… the fears

!!

ばたばた

sfx: flailing

UGHA!!

ばたばた

Don't underestimate me...
.....
Well, okay ...
So we're doing it that way, huh...
...will fight beside you!!
I !!

SLOP
SLOP
SLOP

ザッ
ザッ
ザッ

Doppel
Rund
Streich
!!

SFX: panting
ハァハァ
ゼッ…
……
ガク
Come out!!
……
I know you're hiding.
uh...
!!
ah... aaah ...
It seems you've been well blessed in battle ...
...I'd completely erased my presence, but...

!!
タタッ
I'm so glad!! I knew you were still alive !!
Sir Wilhelm !!
Come with me.
…?

ヤッソ
ガイ
This is?
.....
I had the armor from the jousting tournament altered to be used in un-mounted combat.
I wanted to give it to you at your Knighting Ceremony, but there's no longer any time...
.....
well, then.
スッ
.....

Let us begin.
eh!?
...Wha !?
What are you saying !!?
Sir Wilhelm .....?
There's no way I could...
!?
!!

sfx: labored breathing
It turns out, they weren't something to be given only to the virtuous, after all.....
The "Sacred Relics" are the relics from ancient martyrs who perished at the hands of persecution by heritics.
Their hatred was transformed into the various sorts of 'miracles,' and they continue to seek revenge for their own deaths.
...by using the dead as their "vessels,".... and by unilaterally declaring innocents to be heretics.
And so, as you can see ...
The "Saints" are nothing more than corpses possessed by vengeful ghosts.
.....
...but
He is different.

It is shocking to consider, but,
Although he posesses a human body, even so, he is able to master it.
The strongest of the Sacred Relics !!
Let us begin !!
He holds the "Item of Control," and we have no power to defy him.
チキッ
No, I can't !!
No!!
!!
Kill
Kill
.....

Re-born SCUM!!
ギギギ
I'll kill you!!
ッッ
guah ....
p... please .....
Don't interrupt me!!

Let Me die as a Knight!!

ガチ
ズルッ
……
the armor ....
...suits you well .....

チキ

da....
キリッ
ドロー
ゴオオオ

……
ポロッ
God's
Miracles
……

..you can't be serious...
.....
ポロロ!!

I wanted armor, anyway!?
Who-ever said..

Notes on Chapter 23

Page 20 - The name for the flail here is "Katsu-bi," or "Scorpion's Tail," and the title he's given himself here is playing off of that.

Page 22 - The closest thing I could find to fit the romaji of the Italian here, and mesh with the context was "crossbow" in the dictionary, or, "Balestra." That's taking a slight liberty with the romaji, which unlike the dictionary entries, ended with an 'o.'

Page 27 - Euphemia's usual catchphrase before she goes into, ahem, action mode, as it were, is "Anta no aite wo shite ageru" which Is a pun in that 'aite,' in those cases, could mean either 'opponent' or 'partner' (in this case, of a romantic or sexual nature).

On this page, She's answering Leo with that same battle cry/ catchphrase, and it makes a neat echo/ callback to her earlier scenes. In effect saying 'yes' to being his partner and 'no' to staying out of battle.

The pun never worked so well in English, so I avoided a literal translation, but it added a bit more depth to the lines that I thought ought to be explained.

No promisies about the release date of the next chapter this time. I don't like making promises I can't keep, and apparently I can't keep promises as they relate to the punctuality of scanlation releases. Still aiming for once every 1-2 months...ish, but we'll see. Next up...The Final Boss Fight!

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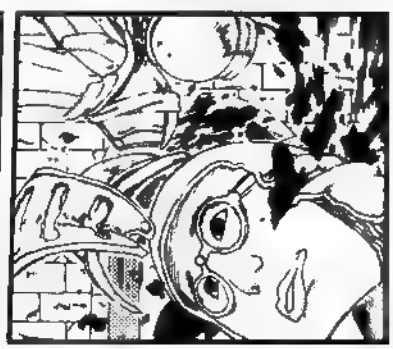
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

I do read all the emails. Sorry, I'm just impossible about responding, but thanks so much to everyone who's taken the time to email me comments!
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

※岡山県K.Mさん

ドン
ドン



※右ページ／和歌山県ＴＦさん、兵庫県ＨＭさん、岡山県ＫＭさん、福島県ＹＫさん
※左ページ／千葉県ＹＦさん、埼玉県ＹＯさん、東京都ＳＴさん

Chapter 24
Minnesang of the Knight and the Witch

Nina ...

!!

Nina !!

ah...

aah ....!!

ドッ

ドッ

ドッ

how
Hurry up and kneel!
What's wrong? you are in the presence of your King, are you not?
..do this to Nina !!
How dare you..
!!

Saints
...

...to the new "Hammer of Holy Men"...

You won't need any introductions, I trust?

These aren't mere priests, without any experience on the battlefield ...
They are the perfect Saints, created with Exclude's best and most talented knights as the vessels.
Wha..!!
"vessels" ...?!
Mistletien,
As your K.ng, I order you ...
... to die.

He's thrown aside his sword?!
What ?!
...was created by a knight who you called, "vessel," ...
This ...

Rau-schen!!

Sir Wilhelm's technique!!

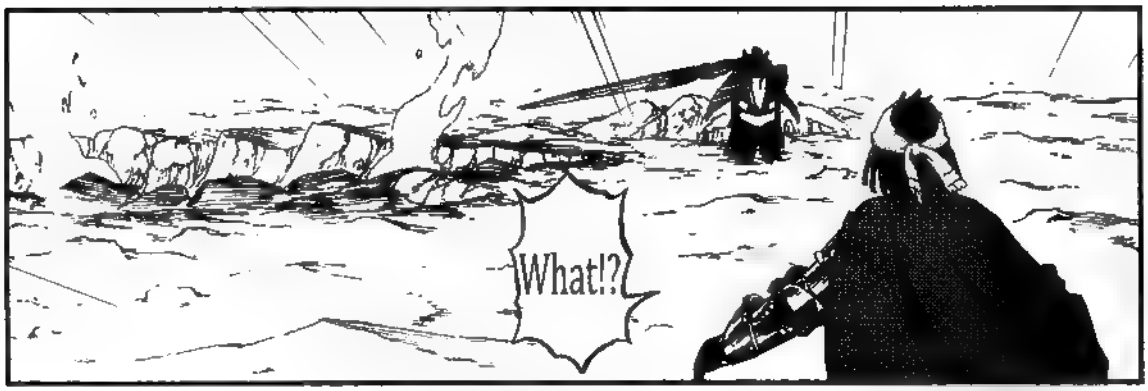
Rest in peace everyone ..

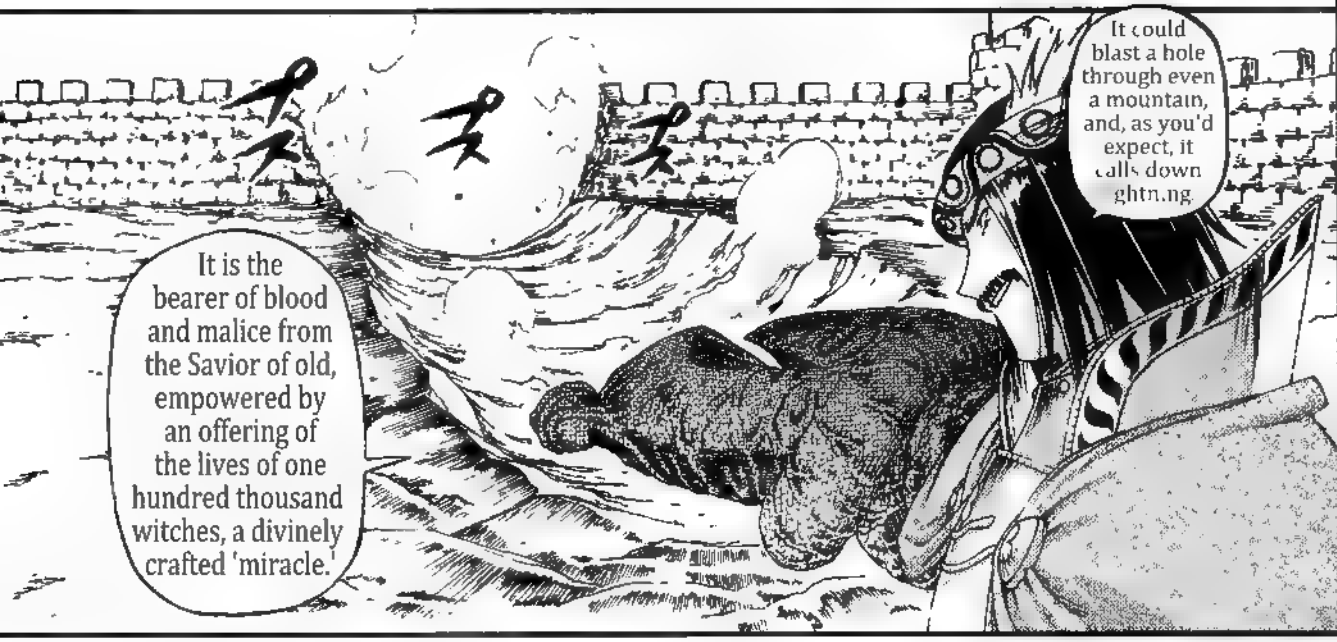
vessels ...

uh...

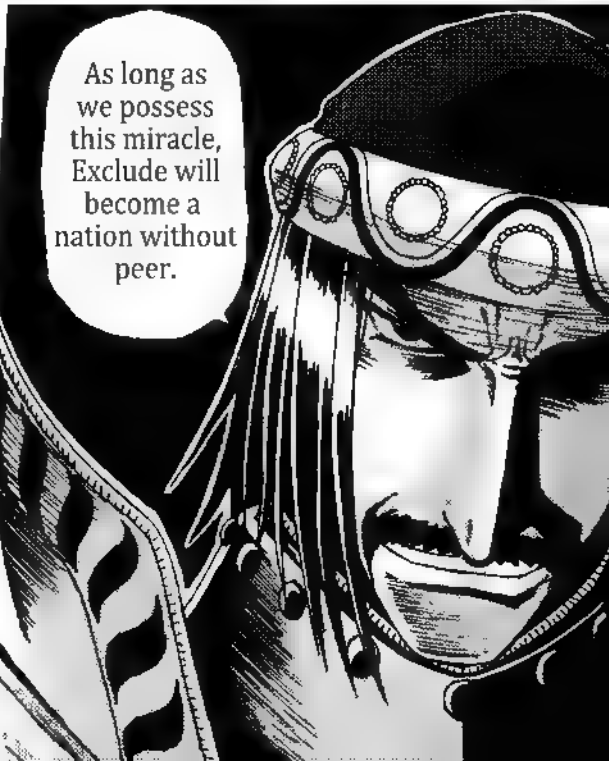
You're next!!
Crown Prince!!
...?
He defeated the Hammer in mere moments?!
heee!!
Please, kill him, quickly!!
H-H-H... Highness!!

Wh--?!


What!?


It could blast a hole through even a mountain, and, as you'd expect, it calls down ghtn.ng
It is the bearer of blood and malice from the Savior of old, empowered by an offering of the lives of one hundred thousand witches, a divinely crafted 'miracle.'

Don't ...
Territorial expansion .....?


As long as we possess this miracle, Exclude will become a nation without peer.

Don't tell me..
You intend to start a war!?

Being King can get pretty boring, you know.

!!

tch...

Well done.

Though, I'll admit to being quite surprised that you were able to cut through not only a thousand men, but the Hammer as well...

.....

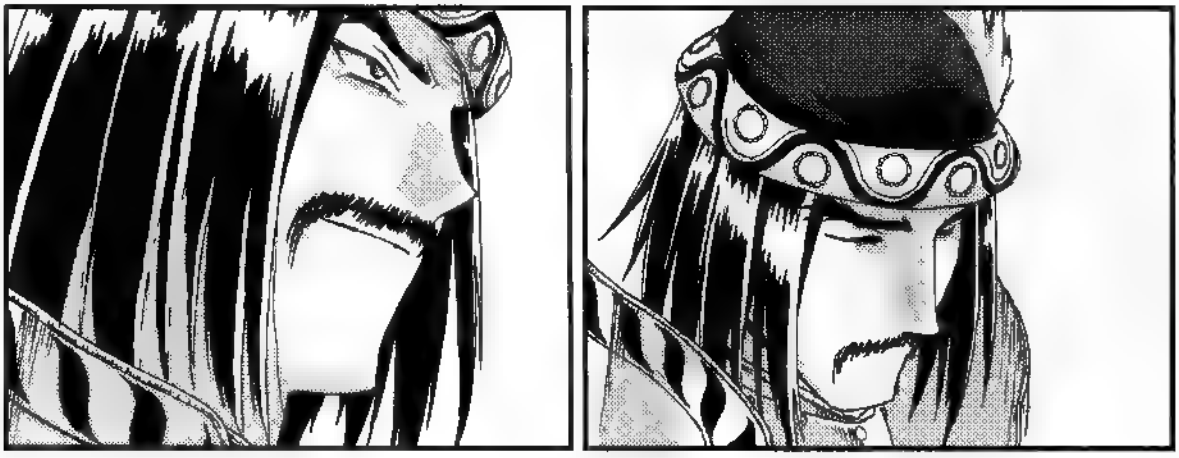
As your King, I...

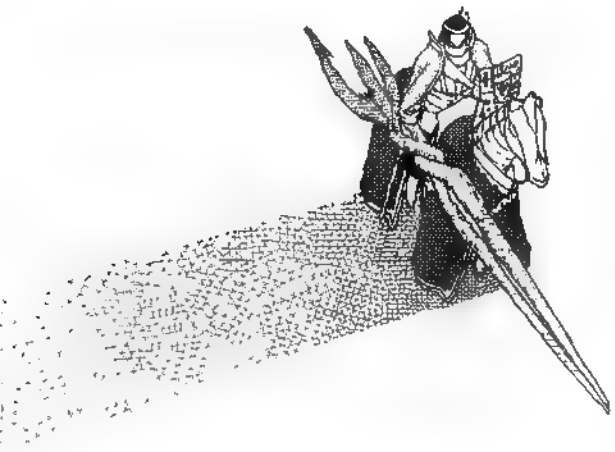
What is he talking about....?

What

I've changed my mind.

I do not need you...





...hereby appoint you as my personal Knight.

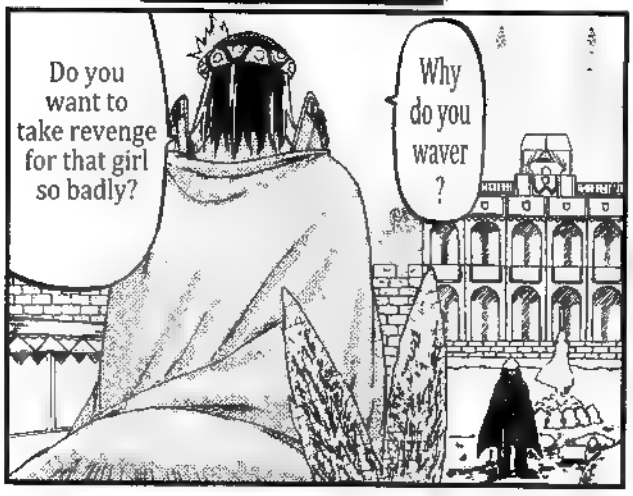
Sir Mist could be .....
Knight ...
K...
Knight ... ..?
A.
With the 'Item of Control' that I posess, and your swordsmanship, Exclude's prosperity will be unshakeable.
You would be wielding your sword for the sake of Exclude
Your stregnth is well worthy of praise.
I intened to place a Sacred Relic into you, as well, but now there is no longer any need...
The reason I transformed the Hammer into Saints was because I sought to have strong warriors at my s de

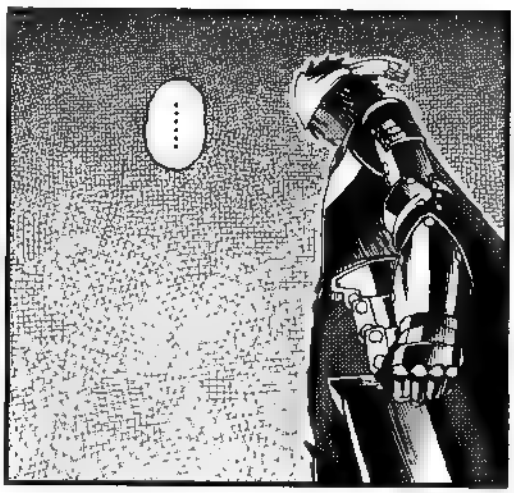
The only deceit here, it would seem... is that you are lying to yourself...
Lies?
I...I'm not going to be taken in by your lies!!
kh..
Don't think for a minute that I'm going to go along with this!!
Let's remember, shall we?
What your life has been like.
Those days of persecution, continually robbed of even the basic respect you deserved as a human being..
..treated with contempt, loathed as some sort of impure creature and only because you were born into this world with black skin.
.....
!!

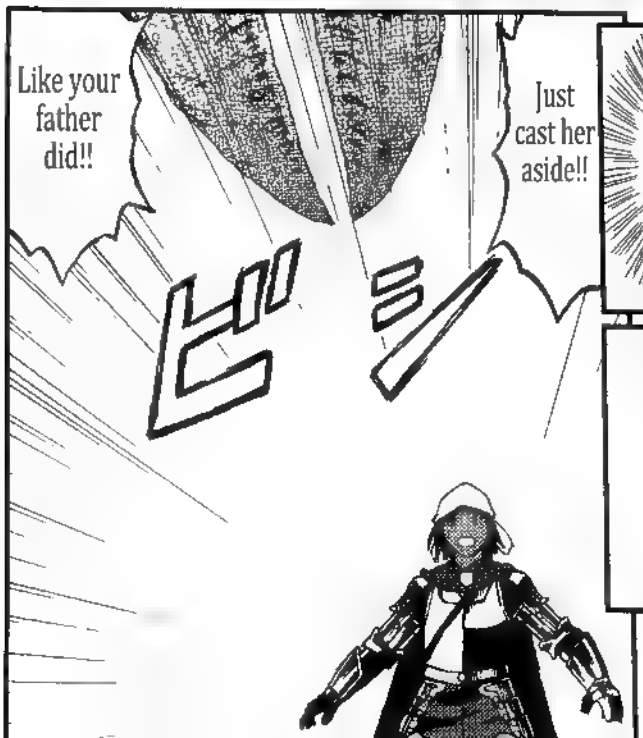
„„to you, even with your black skin.
They will all give their blessing to the new young knight ...
All of that can end today. If only you swear fealty to me, everthing will change.
A knight ...
Sir MIst's glory ..
How wonderful ...
Could really ....?
Someone like me...
..... Knight ....
Become a knight, and gain honor, or die, and serve me as a Saint. You have but two choices...
There's nothing much to think about.

Sir Mist must become a knight .....

He has to do it....







...are priceless things, to be siezed no matter who must be sacrificed!
Men's dreams ...
Respect, not contempt! Applause, not jeers!!
You have one as well, don't you? A desire that consumes you!!
Take hold of your dreams !!
If you're a man,

Don't give up your dream

just because of me !!

Please...

Sir Mist... don't worry about me .....

It ain't pretty ...

There's going to come a time you'll have to betray even yourself.

oh?
.....
allright, I'll become a knight.
.....
To be honest, I thought you'd choose death out of loyalty to that girl.
You're wiser than I thought.
Thank you...
..... Sir Mist ...
.....
It's the obvious decision, considering the life of hardship you've been forced to lead...
Even that girl can't blame you.

Sir
Mist
....
Nina

a knight in the service of you, alone.
I'll be ....

More than any glory,
I love you!!

ah ...
aah ....!!
wah ....

GA
H
foolish
.....
to choose
death for
just one
little girl
....
!!

He was hit by my thunder.
Im... impossible!
kh...
ブルブル
ブル
...and he's still alive?!
ジュワワ
?!

No...
A coincidence ...?
Could it be that the attack was transmitted through the plates of the armor missing his vital organs?
I see...

ゴロゴロゴロ
You are struck by my thunder and yet you live...
Sir Wilhelm protects you ...
Your very existance is an affront!!
I will not abide by this!!
I call on the Wrath of God !!
……

!!
!!
The Wrath of God is as a beam of light
Wh... What is....
!!

There's no way he should be able to dodge it!!
ナガナガ
ズドドド
It can't be.....
Unless you know in advance where the lightning is going to strike, it should be utterly impossible!
I see, so this is
.....
Crown Prince, I've already seen your lightning bolts

You aren't going to hit me !
Does this mean that he's seen through my thunder after being struck but once...?!
Wha!!
What manner of man is he ?!
Damn you...

I'll kill you, by the very hands of a King!!
Die and Obey Me!!

Fühlen
I!!

Am the knight who will protect Nina!!

!!
I am the King who will rule over the world!!
I am the King ....

ピキ
ビキビキ
ゴロゴロ
カアッ

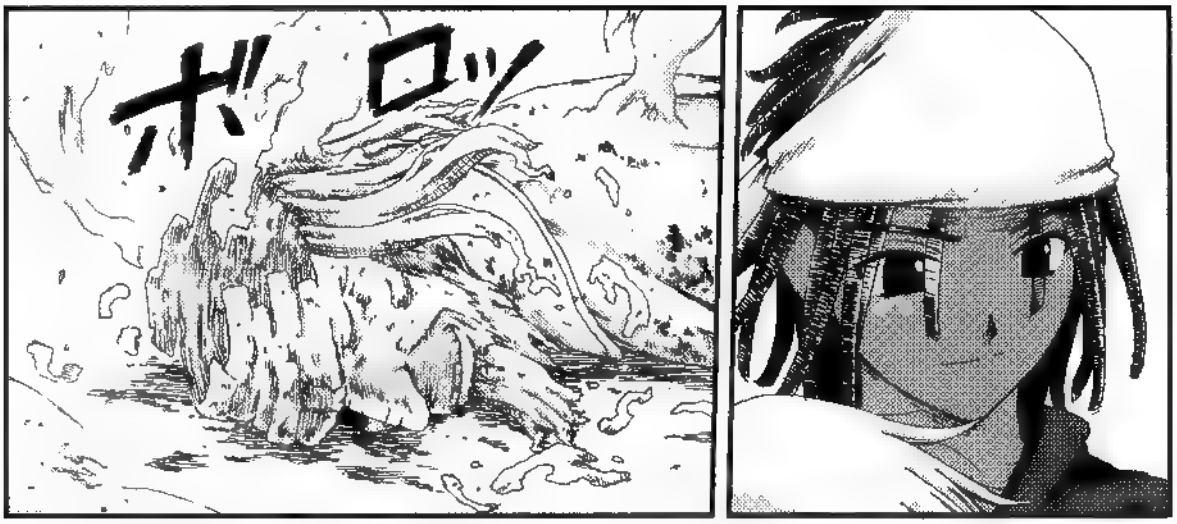
……
ゴオオ
オ
オオオ
It seems like it's over...
Mist ...
シュウウウ

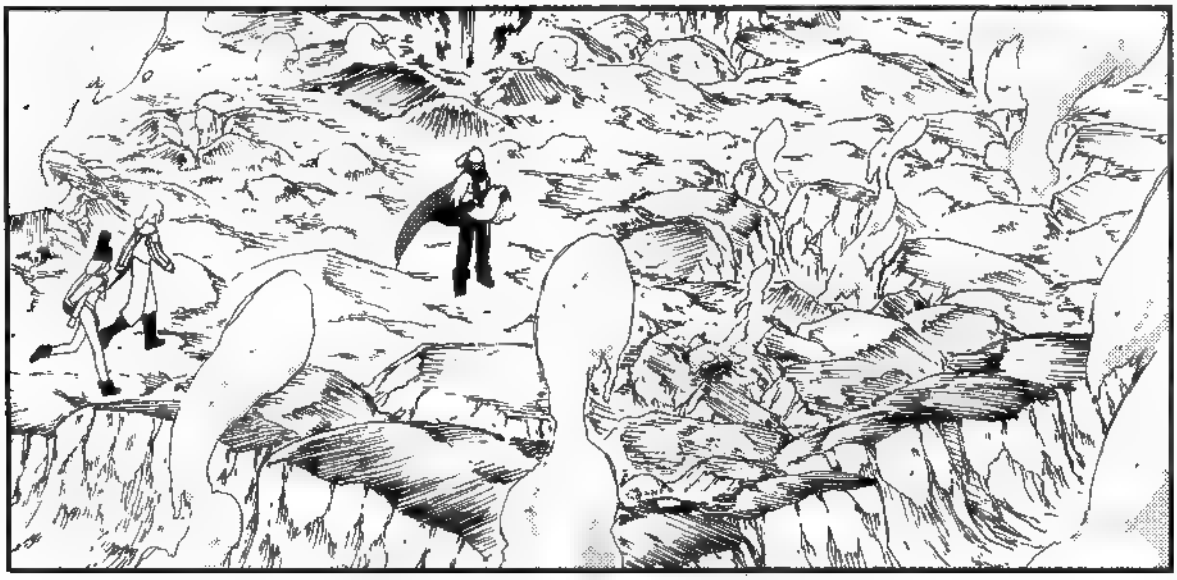
The Black Knight is victorious!!

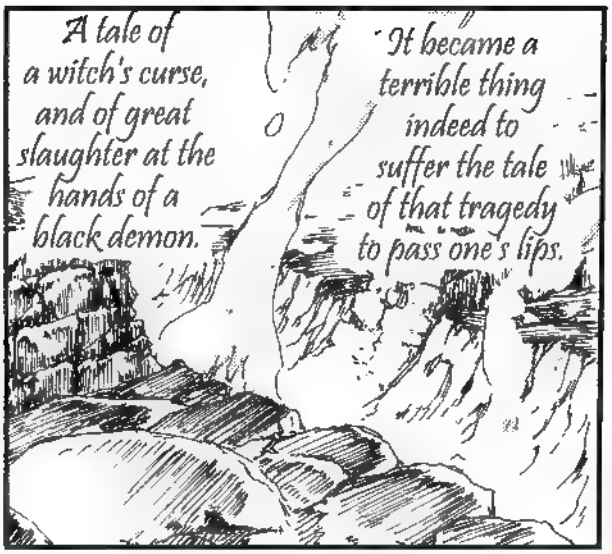
I won't ...
ズズ…
ザザザ
ザン
ピクッ
I won't forgive this!!

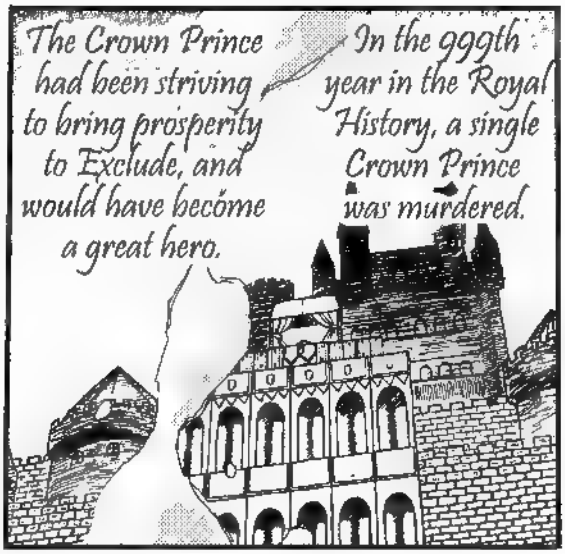
ギュウオ
Watch out!
ボワッ!
!!
……
ゴオオ
!!
ゴオオ
AAA

オオオオ
Ffohh
....
AGAA!
fhohh
...
ボウ
.....
We aren't vessels ...
Isn't that right, boy?
....


ボロッ

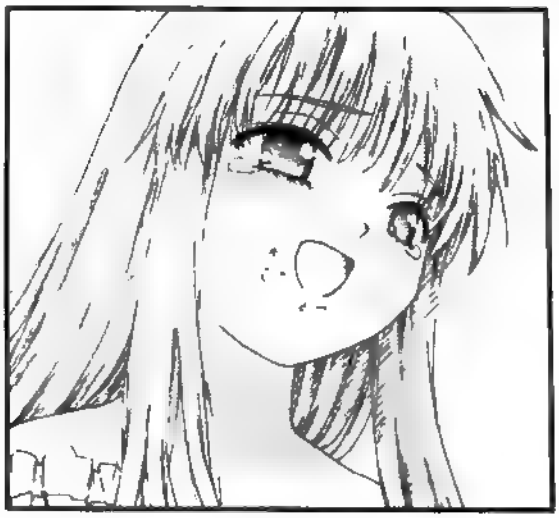



A tale of a witch's curse, and of great slaughter at the hands of a black demon.
It became a terrible thing indeed to suffer the tale of that tragedy to pass one's lips.


The Crown Prince had been striving to bring prosperity to Exclude, and would have become a great hero.
In the 999th year in the Royal History, a single Crown Prince was murdered.

That for an unlucky young girl, captured as a witch...
...and a knight, who took on the taboo of "God Slayer," it was...
Though, perhaps, were you to ask those who knew the dark-skinned squire, they would have said this:

コツン



A Beautiful Minnesang

Das Ende des Minnesanges des Ritters und der Hexe

Notes on Chapter 24

p1 3 The footnotes and suspiciously facially-distinct lackey knights on these pages relate, to the best of my knowledge, to a contest in Dengeki Gao wherein a reader could get Murao to draw them into the manga. The footnotes contain the prefecture of residence and initials of the individuals in question.

p11 - Rauschen ... The Japanese foonotes read "rumbling."

p17 - The 'Item of Control' is the same thing that I translated in an earlier chapter as the 'One that Rules.' Apologies for the inconsistant phrasing.

p52 - "God Slayer" is another reference back to his chosen name, 'Mistletien'

p55 - Minnesang is 'love song'

The last chapter! It's been a while since I started this project... 3 years, at least, I think. It was difficult to keep up with a schedule after I graduated, and ultimately I failed to do so pretty regularly, but thank you guys for all your email and for putting up with the slow scans. I'm glad I was able to share this great but little-known manga with a wider audience. I hope you'll support the official translation, as well, so that even more will be able to read 'Knights.'

Thanks Again!

Saboten Scanlations is a one woman operation
Send emails to sabotenscans@desertwell net

I do read all the emails. Sorry, I'm just impossible about responding, but thanks so much to everyone who's taken the time to email me comments!

One Year Later
Varia Province
Within a forest in the unsettled region.
キ
ン
ッ

ガガガガガガ
チラ
!!
キキキ
Leo~!!
He's being pushed back...
Leo ...
Fighting Spirit!!
Rekindle thyself!!
ギュギュギュー
ブゴッ

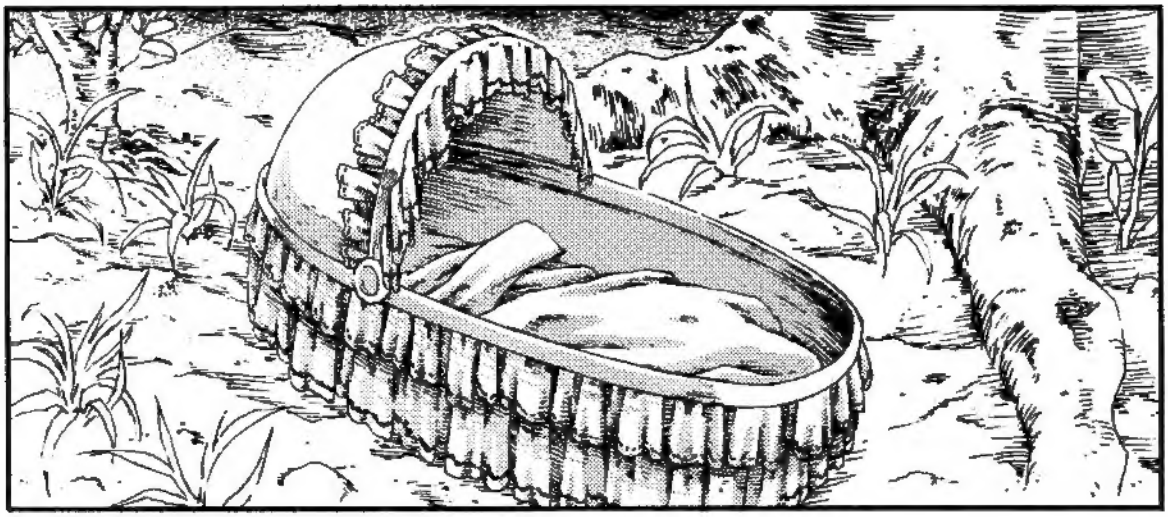
Virgo!
ヒュオ
ク……

Master... That's kind of pathetic...
Ah~ I guess it was no good...
...my loss
?
Fatigued? I don't think that's the problem.
Sir Scott didn't have his usual edge. Maybe he's just fatigued...
Nah...it was an extremely close match.
Mist's really gotten a lot stronger since he's honed fühlen, huh?
That's why!!
I mean, he was intensely energetic all night long...
My back...

カラ…
Let's do it some more
I can't…
……
Nina
…

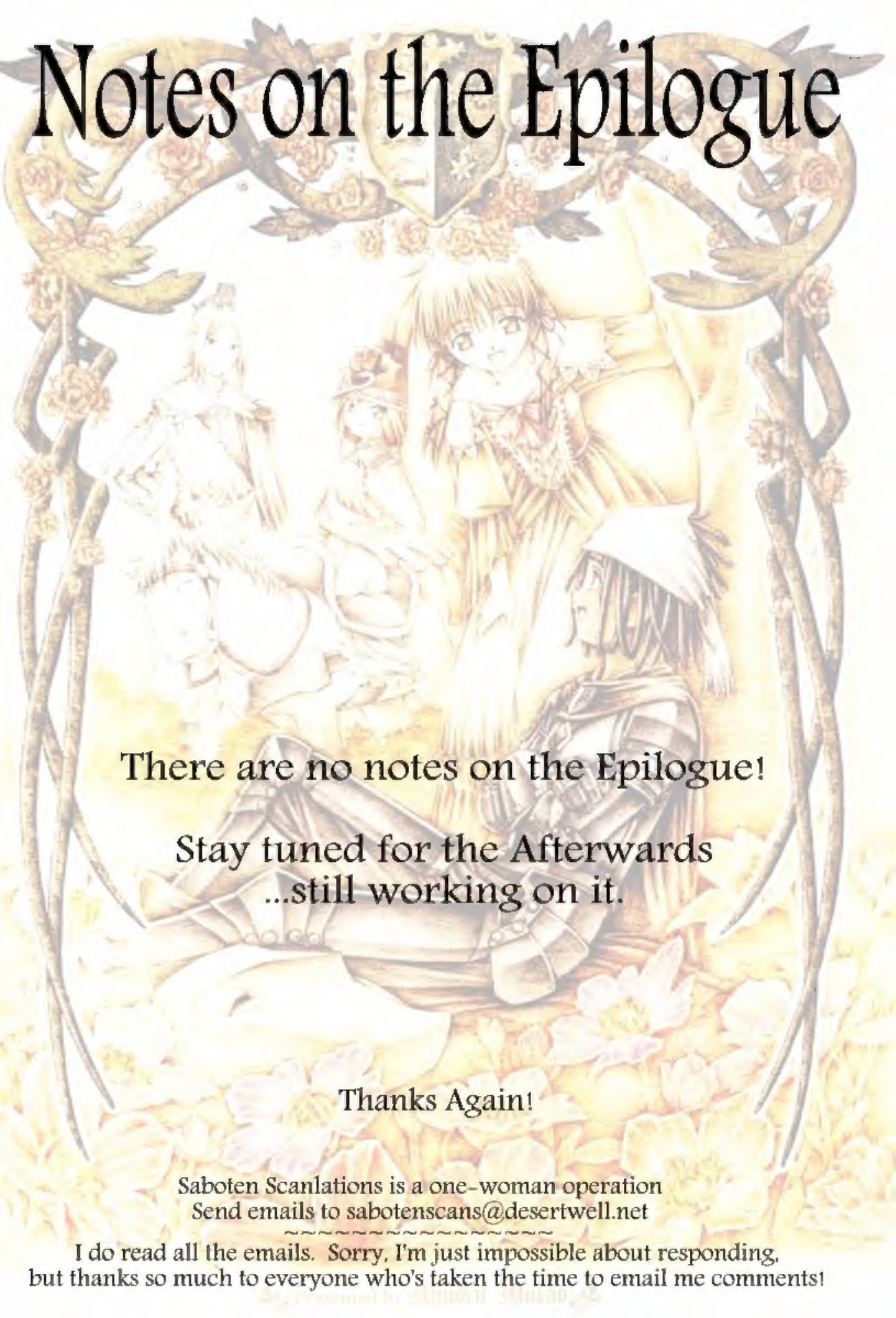
...Mistletien and the pervert couple have all been marked as traitors...
In the end, Nina's lost her speech, and she still doesn't have full use of her legs...
.....
So sad for them ....
It just seems ....

See? look!
Sad? Nah, not at all.
あ…
ゴタイ
……
Sometimes Nina almost seems like she's forgotten that she can't speak.
Whenever I look at those two, I always think,
They've found it
...



Something precious beyond price.....
エピローグ“絆”
Epilogue, "Bonds"
The End
完

Notes on the Epilogue



There are no notes on the Epilogue!

Stay tuned for the Afterwards
...still working on it.

Thanks Again!

Saboten Scanlations is a one-woman operation
Send emails to sabotenscans@desertwell.net
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I do read all the emails. Sorry, I'm just impossible about responding,
but thanks so much to everyone who's taken the time to email me comments!
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